

view of Hayashi, and further in view of Isowaki; and rejects claims 28 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Isowaki, in view of Colwell, and further in view of Hayashi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

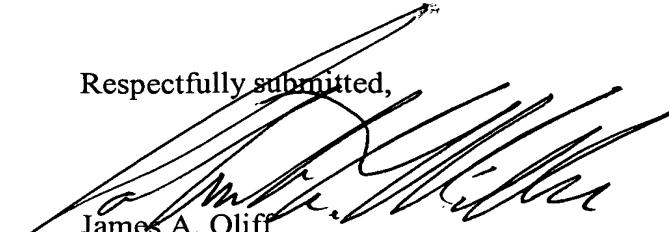
As discussed during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that Hayashi is not prior art under any provision of 35 U.S.C. §102 but §102(e). As such, under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), it cannot be used for a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Hayashi was owned by the assignee of this application at the time of filing this application. In addition, Hayashi's Japanese counterpart is not qualified as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) or (b).

Therefore, these rejections are improper. As such, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 15-42 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: February 24, 2006

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